

CPA FY18 Funding Recommendations

Campanile Restoration Project

The CPC recognized the urgency of this project due to the severely deteriorated/failing state of the Campanile and felt that funding it would start the process of an immediate project to both stabilize and restore the structure. Additionally, since the Campanile was prominently featured in the discussion leading to the passage of the CPA, this project was seen as a good use of CPA funds. The CPC, however, has concerns that there have been previous studies without funding in place for repairs or stabilization

Recommendation: \$250,000 to Springfield Office of Management and Budget

Restrictions/Conditions:

CPC is seeking a firm commitment from the City for stabilization of the Campanile

The report will carry on its cover page an acknowledgment of CPA funding

Gunn Block Stabilization

The Gunn Block is the second oldest commercial structure in the city and one of a handful of buildings that date to earlier than 1850. Without the efforts of DevelopSpringfield, this building would likely have been demolished by now. The CPC recognized that the project to stabilize this structure is both urgent and critical to its preservation. DevelopSpringfield has an existing infrastructure and a track record of tackling difficult historic renovation projects.

Recommendation: \$250,000 to DevelopSpringfield

Restrictions/Conditions:

Install a temporary construction sign recognizing CPA assistance (to be provided)

Perpetuity exterior preservation restriction shall be provided.

Design for the McKnight Community Trail

The McKnight Community Rail Trail has the potential to be a transformational project for the city. It has been championed by McKnight residents for many years, and funding the design phase of the project will open opportunities for the City to access state and federal dollars for the construction phase.

Recommendation: \$200,000 to Springfield Parks Department in conjunction with McKnight
Neighborhood Council Inc.

Restrictions/Conditions:

Should other funding be found for the design, unneeded monies should be returned to the CPA

Design report will carry on its cover page an acknowledgment of CPA funding

East Forest Park Community Reading Garden

The East Forest Park Branch Library is an exciting new project that provided the opportunity to couple additional passive recreational space for the neighborhood, with reduced costs by piggybacking on the existing construction. Due to funding constraints, the CPC decided to fund one of the two phases of the request.

Recommendation: \$138,000 to Springfield City Library

Restrictions/Conditions:

Funding is for the Community Reading Garden and Pergola only.

Provide an agreement that the area is open to the community for the extent of the lease with the
Springfield School Department

Install a temporary construction sign recognizing CPA assistance (to be provided)

Install a permanent sign/plaque upon completion recognizing CPA assistance (to be designed)

Down Payment Assistance Program

In its 2018 Community Preservation Plan, the CPC identified increased home ownership as a priority. The current Down Payment Assistance program is limited to households with 80% or less of area median income. CPA will assist a segment of the population that is currently not served, people who earn between 80% and 100% of the area median income.

Recommendation: \$100,000 to Springfield Office of Housing

Restrictions/Conditions:

- Participating households shall be limited to 80% to 100% of median income
- CPC shall be provided quarterly reports of recipients and addresses assisted

East Forest Park Rail Trail Feasibility Study

Along with the McKnight Rail Trail, the East Forest Park Rail Trail has the potential to be a transformative project for the city. This segment of the old rail line abuts both Forest Park and East Forest Park, providing impact to two neighborhoods. This relatively low-cost project will provide the first step toward the potential design and construction of this active recreational space which would connect Springfield's future McKnight Rail Trail to the existing East Longmeadow Rail Trail.

Recommendation: \$63,200 to Springfield Parks Department in conjunction with the East Forest Park Neighborhood Council

Restrictions/Conditions

- Study area shall extend from Hickory Street south to the East Longmeadow line.
- Report will carry on its cover page an acknowledgement of CPA funding

Godfrey Triangle Revitalization

The Godfrey Triangle Revitalization was championed by the Indian Orchard Citizens Council as a priority for the neighborhood and provides a visible passive recreational project, with a potential future historic component. The CPC recognized that CPA dollars must focus on all corners of the city and that Indian Orchard is sometimes underrepresented in revitalization efforts.

Recommendation: \$62,500 to Springfield Parks Department in conjunction with the Indian Orchard Citizens Council

Restrictions/Conditions

- Funding does not include flag pole, monument and eagle until historic status has been ascertained
- Install a temporary construction sign recognizing CPA assistance (to be provided)
- Install a permanent sign/plaque upon completion recognizing CPA assistance (to be designed)

ReGreen Invasive Plant Program

This project is a prime opportunity to maximize the impact of CPA dollars by tackling a persistent citywide conservation problem coupled with other CPA-related concerns. Japanese Knotweed is impeding the public's enjoyment of the Riverwalk and other park and conservation lands. Additionally, funding this program will result in the training of local residents to perform the work, in line with the CPC's 2018 Community Preservation Plan goals.

Recommendation: \$40,000 to ReGreen Springfield in conjunction with Springfield Parks Department

Restrictions/Conditions:

- CPA-funded Conservation areas, Riverwalk, and McKnight Dingle shall be the first areas to be addressed.
- Install a temporary construction sign recognizing CPA assistance (to be provided)

Riverwalk Enhancement

There is renewed community interest in this existing asset, including an identified potential future project by the State DOT to connect the Riverwalk to the South End Bridge and to Forest Park. The City has put substantial resources into rebuilding Riverfront Park, through which the Riverwalk runs. This low-cost project will encourage use of the trail and will provide visitors to the Riverwalk with an understanding of Springfield's heritage, both natural and historic.

Recommendation: \$24,000 to Springfield Parks Department in conjunction with WalkBike Springfield

Restrictions/Conditions:

- Sign text and design require approval by CPC
- Interpretive signage should include both historic and natural resources
- Signs shall acknowledge CPA assistance
- Other sponsors should be sought to assist with additional signs

Conservation Commission Trail Heads

The CPC recognized that recreational trails in Springfield are an underutilized asset and that designating them with signage would provide people with more information about taking advantage of them. The CPC also coupled this with the Invasive Plant Program to make the trails more usable.

Recommendation: \$12,196 to Springfield Conservation Commission

Restrictions/Conditions:

- Sign text and design require approval by CPC
- Signs shall acknowledge CPA assistance

East Springfield Veterans Memorial Garden

This project is highly visible, low-cost, and provides a good passive recreational space to the neighborhood. The neighborhood council strongly advocated for this project and will provide additional volunteer work to bring it to fruition.

Recommendation: \$10,750 to Springfield Parks Department in conjunction with the East Springfield
Neighborhood Council

Restrictions/Conditions:

- Install a temporary construction sign recognizing the CPA assistance (to be provided)
- Install a permanent sign/plaque upon completion recognizing CPA assistance (to be designed)
- Plantings should be perennials
- Any remaining monies should be returned to CPA